

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 00277 090828Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SMI-01 OES-05

EPA-04 DLOS-05 INT-05 IO-10 SAM-01 /105 W

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R 090902Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7169

UNCLAS TOKYO 0277

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, JA, ETRD

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ACCUSES USG OFFICIALS OF AIDING
BOYCOTT OF JAPANESE GOODS

1. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MAINICHI DAILY NEWS JAN 9 CARRIES
FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE ENTITLED "DRIVE AGAINST JAPAN GOODS
AIDED BY US OFFICIALS." THRUST OF ARTICLE IS THAT
WASHINGTON-BASED LOBBYIST FOR ONE OF THE ANTIWHALING
ORGANIZATIONS CURRENTLY CARRYING ON A CAMPAIGN TO
BOYCOTT SALES OF JAPANESE-MADE PRODUCTS HAS REVEALED
THAT THE MOVEMENT IS SECRETLY ADVISED AND COORDINATED
BY HIGH OFFICIALS OF U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE. ACCORDING
TO ARTICLE, BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN, WHICH U.S. GOVT INSISTS
ENTIRELY PRIVATE IN NATURE, IS AIMED AT REDUCING SALES
OF WELL-KNOWN JAPANESE BRANDS SUCH AS SONY, CANON,
TOYOTA, DATSUN, ETC., TO FORCE JAPAN TO ACCEPT TEN-YEAR
WHALING MORATORIUM. ARTICLE FURTHER STATED THAT SECRET
USG SUPPORT OF BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN CONTRADICTS U.S. POSITION
AT LAST YEAR'S INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION MEETING
AND THAT BESIDES USG HELP AND SANCTION, CAMPAIGN RECEIVE
COMMERCIAL BACKING FROM JAPAN'S MAJOR COMPETITORS IN U.S.

2. ARTICLE WRITTEN BY MARTIN C. AVIDSON ONE OF LESS

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RESPONSIBLE EMBITTERED AMERICAN EXPATRIOTS IN TOKYO WHO

WRITES OCCASIONAL ARTICLES FOR ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MAINICHI.

3. STORY HAS NOT APPEARED IN VERNACULAR PRESS NOR HAS THE EMBASSY RECEIVED ANY QUERIES. WE PLAN TAKE NO ACTION BUT IF QUESTIONED, WE PLAN SIMPLY REPLY STORY IS COMPLETELY IMPLAUSIBLE AND THAT NO RESPONSIBLE USG OFFICIAL WOULD POSSIBLY BE INVOLVED IN ACTION SO CONTRARY TO USG POLICY.

4. TEXT OF ARTICLE BEING POUCHED.
HODGSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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